

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 FCSC-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 CIEP-01 BIB-01 CEA-01 STR-01 /080 W

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P R 231425Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7525

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR SHERER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, CZ, US

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS RE US-CZECHOSLOVAK  
CLAIMS AGREEMENT

REF: A) PRAGUE 151; B) VIENNA 0425 (NOTAL)

1. IN SIGNED ARTICLE (VACLAV DOLEZAL) CALLING ATTENTION TO  
WESTERN EUROPEAN AND AP REPORTS BASED ON CTK RELEASE  
THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAD RENOUNCED US-CSSR CLAIMS AGREE-  
MENTS, RUDE PRAVO JAN 23 PUT BLAME FOR INABILITY TO SIGN  
AGREEMENT ON PROVISIONS OF 1974 TRADE BILL WHICH FORCED  
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US GOVERNMENT "TO WITHDRAW FROM THE NEGOTIATED AND

INITIALED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE USA AND CSSR." DOLEZAL  
CRITICIZED WESTERN NEWS SERVICES FOR TRYING TO SHIFT  
BLAME ONTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA WHEN IN FACT THE TRADE BILL NOT  
ONLY DISCRIMINATED AGAINST SOCIALIST COUNTRIES IN GENERAL  
BUT CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN PARTICULAR. ONE HAD TO VIEW THIS  
DISCRIMINATION, HE ADDED, NOT AS AN ISOLATED CHANCE  
HAPPENING BUT AS A DELIBERATE ACT OF "AMERICAN  
REACTIONARY CIRCLES IN CONGRESS AGAINST SOCIALIST COUNTRIES."

2. OBSERVING THAT THE TRADE BILL PROVISIONS AS THEY APPLIED  
TO SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WORKED TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF THE  
UNITED STATES--AND THAT PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY  
KISSINGER HAD SAID AS MUCH IN RECENT DAYS--DOLEZAL SAID  
THAT THE FORD ADMINISTRATION WOULD PROPOSE TO CONGRESS  
A NEW TRADE BILL WITHOUT THE OFFENSIVE PROVISIONS.  
HE CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD BE NAIVE TO SHIFT THE  
BLAME FOR THE "WRECKING" OF THE CLAIMS AGREEMENT FROM THE  
UNITED STATES ONTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA WHEN CLEARLY THE RESPONSIBILITY  
LAY WITH THE US, IN 1974 JUST AS IN 1964.

3. COMMENT: UNDERSTANDABLY, THE CZECHS COULD NOT REMAIN  
SILENT AS WESTERN NEWS REPORTS PUT THEM IN THE UNDESERVED  
ROLE OF CLAIMS AGREEMENT BAD GUY: THUS THIS AUTHORITATIVE  
WORD, WITH A FEW JABS, THAT THEY INDEED HAVE NOT RENOUNCED  
THE CLAIMS AGREEMENT. ALTHOUGH DOLEZAL IGNORED THE  
WORDING OF THE CTK ENGLISH LANGUAGE RELEASE(PRAGUE 151)--  
POSSIBLY HE WAS NOT AWARE OF IT--WE NOTE THAT IN  
SETTING STRAIGHT THIS EMBARRASING MATTER  
AND IN HIS REFERENCES TO THE TRADE BILL AND CLAIMS  
AGREEMENT, HE REMAINED WITHIN FAMILIAR BOUNDS OF CRITICISM,  
WITHOUT ANY INFERENCE THAT THE USG HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR  
THE ERRONEOUS REPORTS.  
PERRY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, CLAIMS, AGREEMENTS, TRADE, LEGISLATIVE BILLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750126/aaaaaxak.tel  
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Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, EFIN, CZ, US  
**To:** STATE  
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